

## **Neighbourhood Watch Report. 2024/25**



This year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Neighbourhood Watch in Bedford.

National Neighbourhood Watch has developed into the largest UK organisation with over 2.3 million members. It is the largest crime prevention voluntary movement in the country, with local schemes run by volunteers and supported by the Neighbourhood Watch Network.

Methods of communication have changed over the years and much of the information received is now digital.

National Neighbourhood Watch provides resources, projects and networks to support volunteers and communities in crime prevention.

Neighbourhood Watch in Milton Ernest continues to be active and supportive to the village, providing information on personal/home security and providing information regarding how, when and what to report to the police.

Most streets have named Street Coordinators, and Hazel Snowball continues in the role of Area Coordinator for the village.

Neighbourhood Watch receives a budget from the Parish Council in support of safety initiatives within the village.

Our village scheme enjoys a good relationship with the local policing team based in Riseley. Neighbourhood Watch are involved with “Coffee with a Cop,” which are public engagement sessions with the police, addressing local concerns. These are held bi-monthly at the Garden Centre.